

EPA WasteWise Food Recovery Challenge Activities to Reduce and Recover Food Waste

Source Reduction

- **Reduce pre-consumer kitchen waste**
 - ☐ Modify your ordering/purchasing - both quantities and timing.
 - ☐ Re-evaluate production and handling practices.
 - ☐ Review your menus to see if certain items account for excessive prep waste.
 - ☐ Consider secondary uses for excess food - leftover bread becomes croutons, and excess rice becomes fried rice.
- **Reduce post consumer food waste**
 - ☐ Portion control - eliminate excessive portion sizes.
 - ☐ Tray-less dining - especially beneficial in college, military & institutional cafeterias.
 - ☐ Menu modifications - pay attention to entrees and sides that are left on the diner's plate.
- **Re-think purchasing practices**
 - ☐ Incorporate environmental specifications into your supplier contracts and guidelines.
 - ☐ Look for products that still meet your needs but have a better environmental profile than your current products.
 - ☐ Use dishwashers and reusable service ware.
 - ☐ Look for EPA [Energy Star](#) and [WaterSense](#) kitchen equipment.
 - ☐ Purchase condiments and other food supplies in bulk.

[Strategies for Food Waste Reduction](#)

Donation and Reuse

Feed People

- ☐ Start a relationship with a Food Bank or Rescue Program in your area to donate excess food.
- ☐ Work directly with a local or regional agency or organization to get your surplus food to the needy.

[Case Study: Rock and Wrap it Up! Helps Fight Hunger.](#)
[Tip Sheet for Donating Surplus Food to the Needy](#)

Feed Animals

- ☐ Start a relationship with local Farmers to donate food waste.
- ☐ Donate food waste to a local Zoo.

[Case Study: Food Scraps Go to the Animals](#)
[Tip Sheet for Managing Food Scraps as Animal Feed](#)

Industrial Uses

- ☐ Explore opportunities for donating oil, fat, and grease byproducts to organizations in the rendering industry or for biodiesel.

[Case Study: Food to Fuel](#)

Composting

- ☐ Participate in an existing composting program in your area.
- ☐ If no composting programs already exist in your area, create an on-site composting program.

[Case Study: Fine Dining Returns to the Earth](#)